

Andrew Jackson to Louis McLane, March 17, 1830, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO LOUIS MCLANE.¹

1 Copy. Handwriting of A. J. Donelson.

Washington, March 17, 1830.

Dear Sir, I had the satisfaction this morning to receive your notes of February 6th and January 22d last, the first offering to my acceptance the Lectures of Mr. Nassau William Senior,² and the other Mr. Watson's plan of preventing ships foundering at sea.

² The noted English economist (1790–1864).

These evidences of the estimation in which I am held by Gentlemen wholly unknown to me before deserve a return of my thanks which I beg you to convey to them. To an individual who has struggled the greater portion of his life against the adverse sentiments of his own countrymen, the assurance that the ultimate attainment of their approbation obtains the sanction of those whose talents in the service of mankind are not confined to any country, cannot but be gratifying. If without the imputation of vanity I may be permitted thus to value the favorable expressions which you have communicated, it is not without a corresponding sense of the increased obligation which they impose to persevere in a course of action which may terminate my public life without disappointing them. To do this is more than I can expect from my humble talents, but dependent as they are upon the cooperation of the

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other branches of the Government, and the aid of my friends I must not anticipate less for the character of my administration. . . .